Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting
Date: May 5, 2005   **Time:** 10:00 a.m.
Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Conference Room

    I.   Approval of Meeting Minutes

    II.   Geographic Framework Program

         A. Framework Activities Update

         B. Digital Ortho Update

Rob Surber, Center For Geographic Information (CGI) May 20, 2005 is the date that The State will be finalizing the distribution of Homeland Security funds. We don't have the final numbers yet. The funding will help various levels of government. We are working with Department of State, Emergency Operation Center people to reprioritize where those funds will go. GIS/GIT is still a high priority, high commitment of Emergency Operations and Homeland Security Advisory Council.
At the IMAGIN Conference, Ken Theis, Deputy Director of DIT Agency Services, announced the creation of a Statewide GIS Advisory Council. There are a lot of policy issues that GIS needs to have a voice in. This group will be put together over the summer with representation from all levels of government. At this point, we do not know who will be on the council. One of the goals is to move GIS/GIT into a more mainline policy player with some of the Legislation issues and Executive orders.

Everett Root (CGI) we are working toward the Version 5 delivery. We have delayed the delivery to accomplish an additional task to help prepare for Version 6. We have removed all of the unnamed non-PR road features in Framework statewide. Around 120,000 road features came out of it, anything that was identified as roads and had never been named. Then the road features that those came off of were unsplit if possible. The desire is to improve the tracking of edits as we move into Version 6. If any of these things are important we will re-add them based on a project. Many of these have been there since the original conflation of the MIRIS (Michigan Information Resource Information System) and TIGER (Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing). There will be no more unnamed road layers created at the end of the year. It delayed our delivery, but we feel it will help us going into Version 6. We are also doing quite a significant update on the Framework classification codes. We are trying to improve them, make the consistency better. All of the National Functioning Class (NFC) is going in there as well. We have received around 60 counties of updates from Susan Berquist, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). She collects all of the information, submits it to the Federal Highway Administration in Washington D.C. and gets their approval. A portion of the 60 something Counties have been approved. She has had nothing unapproved, so we will go ahead and put in all of the changes. Understanding that we may have to change something after the fact.

One other project we have worked on, it won't be seen in Version 5, is the State Park Road Project. It was contracted by the Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to collect GPS (Global Position Systems) information on all the roads in the State Parks, the boating access sites and harbors. Those GPS centerlines were sent over to CGI. We went through a process to clean them up and connect the roads. We've done about 85% of them. We are creating clean coverage's that we will be ready to drop into Framework post-Version 5 and they will show up in Version 6 or some later release. The Parks and Recreation department has to collect information about all of their assets, buildings, park benches, etc., so, they are building an Internet application here at CGI for the Park Managers to review data. We will take these roads and load them into that application so that they can be reviewed on line and we will be putting together a tool for them to submit names. We will be giving them the responsibility of naming the roads. Regarding the Digital Ortho update, Marquette County is to be flown on Wednesday. It is my understanding that a portion of Dickinson County was flown. They flew Dickinson County - Kingsford, Norway, Iron Mountain and Breitung Township. Midland, Bay & Saginaw Counties have flown. Ionia will be flying soon and Jackson County is flying pictometry right now. They have flown the high level photography, now they are coming back and using the 5 cameras. SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Government) will be finished this weekend. The Tri-Counties (Ingham, Eaton, Clinton) are done. We have also heard that Lenawee County has flown and we need to make contact with them about partnering. We are also getting calls regarding next year as well. There is a primary partnership and a secondary partnership. The secondary partnership means that we came in after the flight was done.

Sherm Hollander, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) I have sent in a request to get an update on the summer program, the National Imagery program to find out exactly what specs they are going to use. We have requested 1-meter pixel size, even though the standard is 2-meter. We have requested the color infrared. What I don't know yet is if it is film acquisition or digital. MSU (Michigan State University) was promoting it at their booth at the IMAGIN (Improving Michigan's Access To Geographic Information) Conference. The product will be a quarter-quad base.

    III.   MDNR Projects and Activities

Sherm Hollander, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) currently we are continuing to work on ongoing projects. There are no new initiatives at this time.

    IV.   MDOT Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) we are waiting for Version 5. This is for asset management purposes and Traffic Data collection

    V.   MDEQ Projects and Activities

David Slayton, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) nothing new at this time.

VI.   MSP Projects and Activities

A. Michigan Homeland Security GIS Advisory Committee

No representative

VII.   MDCH Projects and Activities

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health, (MDCH) just had one question and that is, do we need to send over problem addresses for Framework. Our geocoder is running slightly older versions.

Everett (CGI) – yes.

Mike (MDCH) we are using the CGI Geocoder to run Framework. It is a little older version. Basically it is the same thing as Map Michigan software for geocoding and mapping. This will tie in with Public health issues.

VIII.   MSI Projects and Activities

Charles Bender, Michigan State Industry (MSI) another disk came in yesterday from MDOT for a right of way project. The files that they had were large, so they were taking a considerable amount of time to open up. We have been working on various compression methods to try to speed up the access of the files and we are going to try to provide MDOT with a couple of examples from off a CD that we got, something that will be of use to them. If it is going in the right direction for them, then we will continue on with that and try to get the right of way project finished up in a reasonably short amount of time. There are still several counties we have yet to finish up with.
We are starting to get some calls from various libraries to transfer a lot of the materials that they have; either audio or video and we are hoping some map resources to digital applications.

IX.   CGI Projects and Activities

Everett (CGI) we have posted two positions here. They went up on the State web site last Tuesday, May 31, 2005 for Programmer Analyst in Application Services. It is basically Internet Development. They will be posted on the Internet until next Tuesday, June 7, 2005.
We are involved in some hardware and software upgrades. We have a new server. We have been moving some of the SDE and some of the other applications over to that. The SDE9 is out as well. We are getting that installed and getting things migrated and working out the issues with that. It is going to allow us to put Version 5 into all of our applications, hopefully by the end of the summer. The first time we set all of these things up and all of this geography went in, it was trial and error. Since then with software and hardware efficiencies we are going to redo the way the geography is in there. When a new version comes out it will be easier to add the layers. It is very difficult to do that

now with the way it is set up. Future updates will be a lot easier and will show up a lot quicker in all of the applications, such as geocoding. We will be able to take advantage of Version 6 as soon as it comes out. Currently, we are working on consistency with all of the different layers and should be done with Version 5 by the end of the summer. We are loading all of this on the new servers working with Karen Ryan and John Clark to get everything done by the end of the summer.

Our partnership with the US Postal Service entered into an advance step with Allegan County. We attended a meeting in Allegan County with their Central Dispatch, Health Department and County Road Commission. These are the units that use street names and address ranges. The Address Management System Director from the Grand Rapids US Postal Service came as well. We have been working for a couple years now with them to improve what goes in to the Zip + 4 to get the postal office on the same page as the local units of government and the state coordinating with names and addresses. We will be taking the updates and changes as well and adding them to the Framework and Qualified Voter File. The US Postal Service will be taking the addresses that are official which comes from the County level. Livingston County was our first pilot. There are 3 districts in Lower Michigan – Grand Rapids, Royal Oak and Detroit and all 3 of those districts come into Livingston County. Livingston County went through and submitted a bunch of official names to each of those 3 offices and the process of changing started to take place. It became the single point of reference. We have been able to extract Zip+4 information by county for comparison.

We have also been working with counties receiving hydro information to update the NHD (National Hydrologic Data) data evaluating it and identifying features that we need to put in Framework. As soon as Version 5 is over we will start moving all of that hydro features into Framework. We have been talking with Charley Hickman, United States Geological Survey (USGS) to send someone to Rolla, Missouri for the NHD Software Training.   The training will be on the process of transferring the NHD data to the Framework target. Someone from our office will be going to Rolla to learn that process and then come back and get it up and running and train a few more staff as well.

  X. MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services Projects and
     Activities

No representative present.

  XI. County /Local Projects and Activities

Roger Belknap, Kent County, we are doing a study on our county owned gravel pits. The county road commission will use a pit and over time the sand will be depleted and we are developing a plan to see if these pits can be converted into wetland mitigation areas and then donate it to park property. We have started this using REGIS data and some other data sources. What we are hoping to do, as an outcome is to eventually write a document on gravel pits that are County owned.

Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County, I just got back from an IMAGIN Conference and need to see the ESRI folks on some of the applications that we like to toy with that are becoming

core applications. We need to see if anyone is interested in the maplex engine or the Arc scan, they now have full-blown Arc info, you can request a new license key that will unlock those features now in 8 or you have to migrate to 8.1. Our 5th and final core tower is up and running. We did learn that the new update for the Geoid is going to be referenced against St. Clair and Macomb counties. They will be coming in and putting up permanent stations every 7 kilometers across the two counties. Everything else is pretty much cleaning up projects.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County, we were going to do a land use, land cover up date this year and after doing some time estimates, we determined that it would be much cheaper just to purchase a satellite image from SPOT. Then we would run that through an automated classification in a fraction of the time and would not have to hire a ½ dozen interns and spend a lot of money.   Not sure how that is going to go because they liked the idea, but no one has come up with the money yet. The other half of that 319 project is 2004 Hydrology update. There has been a pretty severe drop in lake levels between 1999 and 2004. We actually maintain the 1999 features in our Hydrology as a normal lake level feature and put the 2004 as a low water feature.

Bob Carra, Genesee County, the Homeland Security money was approved for us to purchase ArcIMS and a new server and we will be purchasing an additional server for the GIS program from our own funds. The County board approved the purchase of the core base stations and those will be going in the next few months. Also, we are taking on the parcel maintenance for the City of Flint.

XII.   Regional Projects and Activities

Steve Stepek, West Michigan Regional Planning Commission (WMRPC) we are waiting on Version 5 so that we can get started on Asset Management. We will also be starting on the Grand regions flight map once Asset Managements wraps up. We are one of the last groups to get on board as far as MDOT regions.

Everett (CGI) the Department of Transportation's non-motorized section, folks that work with the trails to rails system and other non-motorized transportation issues, have contracted with Regions in many areas to create bike maps. Our role was to provide Framework. And in an effort to help jump-start it, two of our staff conducted a training seminar in Mt. Pleasant for anyone from these regions. There is a variety of mapping software packages that they will be using, so we tried to tailor it to some generic information that you could load in and get started. We also included referencing information because they do have some data linked to PR mile point for the road system that affects the bike system. That project takes place this calendar year.

Dan Dillinger, Tri-County Road Planning Commission, flight is taking up a lot of what we are doing. We have a non-attainment for air quality in our area and that is taking up a lot of funding and time as well. Non-attainment is a new status for FCS. Last fall we had a conference on our trail system. We have a whole trail layer that is not linked to CGI. The person who was working on the project is no longer with MDOT. It was a

community wide forum that established proposed trails. All of the county park directors; the Rails to Trails people and the Nature Conservancy were involved.

XIII.   Federal Projects and Activities

Gordon Rector, United States Census Bureau (USGS) we are hoping that our second release of TIGER line 2004 will occur sometime this summer. The last release, which came out in February had 46 Michigan counties that had been realigned. The next release, sometime this summer, should have at least 20 more counties. TIGER is looking more like Framework and vise versa, at least for position of the features.

Charley Hickman, United States Geological Survey (USGS), I brought a hand out for the current NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure) CAP Grant program that was just announced last week. It is open through June 15, 2005. The 4 categories for the Cap Grant: (1) Metadata Clearing House and Web Mapping Services (2) Framework and Web Mapping Services (3) Strengthening Multi-Organizational Collaborations For NSDI (4) Framework Data.
One other handout - there is training this summer, a week, for Grades 5-12 for Geography Educators on some geodata things in Ohio, but it is for the whole region.

XIV.   Other

Everett (CGI) we were contacted a couple of months ago by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness for safe routes to school project. They are distributing maps out to schools and asking parents to go walk the attendance areas and try and determine safe routes to walk or ride bicycles to school. So, we have been providing some paper for their pilots and as the project expands then schools will contact us directly for maps. A second project that came out of that is a possibility of enabling Middle schools with GPS to go out and collect safe routes to schools. They have a budget and want to work with GIS, GPS and mapping to help the safe route to school project.

Charley (USGS) another workshop this summer is the IAGT, a group in Auburn, New York that gets NASA funding. They are doing a remote sensing for elementary and secondary educators.

XV.   Next Meeting Date

June 2, 2005, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48933